

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition consisting essentially of:[-]
 - (i) ~~an organopolysiloxane having a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistoke (mm²/s)~~
(i) one or more polymers which have the formula
$$\underline{R_2R^1SiO[(R_2SiO)_x(RViSiO)]_ySiR_2R^1}$$
wherein each R is the same or different and is an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a 3,3,3-trifluoroalkyl group, R¹ is a hydroxy group or an alkenyl group, x is an integer, y is zero or an integer, and x + y is between 700 and 10 000;
 - (ii) treated kaolin
 - (iii) a curing agent; and
 - (iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants[.],

which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers.
 2. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 1 ~~in which the polysiloxane gum comprises characterized in that the polymer(s) comprise(s)~~ a mixture of two polysiloxane gums having the formula $R_2ViSiO[(R_2SiO)_x(RViSiO)]_ySiR_2Vi$ and the formula $R_2ViSi(R_2SiO)_xSiR_2Vi$ wherein in each formula, R represents an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms; Vi represents the vinyl group; and x and y each have values of 500-1,000.
 3. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any preceding claim wherein~~ Claim 1 characterized in that the kaolin comprises a kaolin treated with an alkoxysilane of the formula $R_{(4-n)}Si(OR)_n$ wherein n has a value of 1-3; and R is an alkyl group, an aryl group, or an alkenyl group.

4. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 3 ~~in which characterized in that the alkoxysilane is a compound selected from the group consisting of methyltriethoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, and vinyltrimethoxysilane.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1 ~~characterised in that the composition comprises comprising~~ about equal amounts of ~~polysiloxane~~ ~~the polymer(s)~~ and ~~the~~ kaolin.

6. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any preceding claim in which~~ ~~Claim 1 characterised in that~~ the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-*t*-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.

7. (Currently Amended) A composition in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1 to 5 in which~~ ~~Claim 1 characterised in that~~ the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of making a treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 7 consisting essentially of:~~

(i) one or more polymers which have the formula
$$\underline{R_2R^1SiO[R_2SiO]_x(RViSiO)]_ySiR_2R^1}$$
wherein each R is the same or different and is an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a 3,3,3-trifluoroalkyl group, R¹ is a hydroxy group or an alkenyl group, x is an integer, y is zero or an integer, and x + y is between 700 and 10 000;

(ii) treated kaolin

- (iii) a curing agent; and
- (iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants.

which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers

which method consists essentially of the steps: [[-]]

- (i) mixing an organopolysiloxane the polymer(s) and treated kaolin under room temperature conditions,
- (ii) adding a curing agent to the mixture in (i); and curing the mixture in (ii) at a temperature above room temperature by the application of heat.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim [[1]] 8 in which room temperature is normal ambient temperature of 20-25°C (68-77°F).

10. (Cancelled)

Please add the following new claim.

11. (New) A composition according to Claim 1 characterized in that each R group is a methyl or ethyl group.